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MIL MASCARAS DDQ CANEK IN JAPAN

Still no finish to a Mil Mascaras vs. Canek singles match ever

On Saturday, August 15th, 1992, in Kawasaki, Kanagawa, Japan, at about 9:30 pm local time (= 7:30 am same day EDT/4:30 am PDT same day), we almost had a historic moment in Mexican lucha libre history. Well, we did have a historic moment – Canek and Mil Mascaras met in a singles match for the first time ever in Japan. However, the really historic thing would have been if there had been a clean finish!

Instead, as reported by David A. Meltzer, editor of the greatest insider newsletter of them all, The Wrestling Observer Newsletter, and sometime correspondent for Lucha Libre Weekly, the match ended in a controversial double disqualification. As of press time, Dave was not able to supply me with any further details of the match. However, he commented that the double DQ did not go over well with Tokyo-area fans who have come to expect clean finishes in virtually every match, especially championship matches such as this (Mil Mascaras here defended his IWA World Heavyweight Championship that he won in 1975 versus Canek's UWA World Heavyweight Championship).

I hope to have more on this next week, but considering the fact that this is only the sixth singles match ever between arguably Mexico's two biggest drawing cards since 1969, the fact that they even had the match is amazing. It was taped for home video and I will have a copy of that tape within about a month; so write me if you want it. This was only the second singles match between these two since 1985; the other was a double-over-the-barrier finish at el Toreo last October 27, 1992, which was shown on the UWA's first live television show on November 3, 1992, and if anyone has a copy of this, I'd like to hear from you. As mentioned in the headline, all six singles matches ever between these two have ended in double-something non-finishes.

This leads me into the story of luchadores in Japan for this week. In the WAR promotion, both el Comandante Ruso and Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragon (Yoshihiro Asai) were told not to come for this August tour. Dragon will return in September with Jose "el Negro" Casas for the big show at The Yokohama Arena on September 15th, 1992. At the August 13th WAR show, the ring announcer announced the foreigners who would be on the Yokohama show, and Negro Casas's name (while none of the names got a big pop at all) got a bigger pop than that of The Road Warriors, The Undertaker, Randy Savage, The Berserker, or The Ultimate Warrior!

New Japan is sending a new wrestler to the UWA. He will be billed as "Kuroneko." That's odd, because this is Victor Manuel Mai, a Mexico City resident who wrestles for NJPW as "The Black Cat!" The Black Cat has never gotten much of a push in New Japan, but he ought to do well in Mexico. I still can't get over how much the New Japan promotion, which with the EMLL may be the best in the world; mis-used May Flowers and Pimpinela Escarlata.

No luchadores are either coming or going among the Japanese promotions UWF International, RINGS, Professional Wrestling Fujiwara-Gumi, Oriental Pro Wrestling (though the Love Machine may yet bring his brother Jesse Barr to the EMLL), JWP, LLPW, All Japan, and WMA. I know the EMLL does want Ishinriki and The Cobra (Jyoji "George" Takano) from NOW but politics are in the way for now.

FMW is using three WWA luchadores on its next tour in late August and early September. Los Mercenarios Americanos I y II will be billed as The Mercenaries in Japan. I believe the present plan is for Billy Anderson and Louie "Cutie Pie" Spicoli to be the two Mercenaries this time. The Mercenary Number Two, in particular, will be in a lot of street fights versus Atsushi Onita's team. Also, Ultraman Dos Mil will be in, billed as el Amigo Ultra. Rumors abound that the FMW will be bringing in one or more AAA stars (such as el Hijo del Santo, Octagon, Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo, and/or Konnan el Barbaro) for its big Yokohama Baseball Stadium show of September 19, 1992.

All Japan Womens' Pro Wrestling is sending four wrestlers (Aja Kong, Manami Toyota, Kyoko Inoue, and Toshiyo Yamada, who just lost her hair to Toyota in what Meltzer rated a ***** match on 8/15/92) to join Kaoru Maeda (who technically works for Universal), Yumiko Hotta, and Suzuka Minami, for the EMLL's August and September dates.

Lastly, I have results from the opening shows of the Universal tour, but you will find that in the late news section on page eight. Thanks to Mr. Meltzer and to Roy Lucier who was a major help in getting me this week's latest news.

AAA RESULTS

* From the card held Tuesday, July 14th, 1992, at el Auditorio General Jose Maria Arteaga in Queretaro, Queretaro, Mexico, the main event saw Universo Dos Mil, Fishman, and el Sicodelico defeat el Fantasma, la Mascara Sagrada, and Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo two falls to one. This was el Sicodelico's first match in after his jump from the UWA to the AAA and he surprised everyone by coming in as a heel. The semifinal saw la Trio Fantasia (Super Muneco, Super Raton, and Super Pinochio) win two straight falls from los Nuevos Destructores del Ring (Tony Arce, Rocco Valiente, and el Vulcano). The segunda saw el Micro Konnan el Barbaro, el Micro Volador, and el Micro Misterioso win two out of three falls from los Micros Destructores del Ring (el Micro Fuerza Guerrera, el Pequeno Goliath, and el Gran Nikolay). And, the opener saw the debuting los Enterradores I y II lose in three falls to los Dragones del Oriente I y II.

* On the next page I will cover the results and my thoughts from the last two weeks' results from the AAA television tapings.

CARDS

* The biggest AAA card since they held their first one on May 15th, 1992 was held this past Friday night, August 14th, 1992, in conjunction with the first-ever AAA convention in Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico. The arena for the card was the "el Saion Teotihuacan" in el Centro Internacional Acapulco. The main event saw the debut in Mexico of the "Relevos AAA" match. I say debut in Mexico because back on June 14th, 1992, in Los Angeles, the AAA tried the same type of match except in Los Angeles there were "micros" and not "minis" in the mix. The match had Octagon, Octagoncito, and el Hijo del Santo versus Jerry "el Puma" Estrada, Jerrito Estrada, and Fuerza Guerrera. The semifinal had a mascara contra mascara match between Mister Condor and el Rey Misterio junior. The tercera saw la Mascara Sagrada, Konnan el Barbaro, and Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo face el Sicodelico, Cien Caras, and el Cobarde Segundo. The segunda saw Mascara Ano Dos Mil, The Blue Panther, and Fishman face el Volador, el Angel Azteca, and el Misterioso. The inicial saw Psicosis, Heavy Metal, and el Picudo face Winners, Super Calo, and Thunderbird. I hope to have results in the late news section on page eight.

* The AAA also held a card Friday, August 14th, 1992, back at the el Auditorio General Jose Maria Arteaga in Queretaro, Queretaro, Mexico. The inicial saw luchadoras Vicky Carranza and Casandra versus la Biosa and la Marquesa. The rest of the card was taken up with a one-night parejas tournament, for "la Primera Copa Corregidora." The four tecnico teams that were entered were: 1) Super Muneco and Bull Raiders; 2) Super Raton and Super Pinochio; 3) Super Star and el Galactico; and 4) Super Kiss and Apolo. The four rudo teams that were entered were: 1) The Rose and The Babe Sharon, 2) Rambo and el Hijo del Diablo; 3) Universo Dos Mil and el Angel Blanco junior; and 4) Ricky Boy and el Tornado. My money would be on el Angel Blanco junior and Universo Ano Dos Mil.

NEWS

* Coming in new this week were Ricky Boy and el Super Halcon, whose real name is "Danny" Ortiz.

* The four luchadoras mentioned above in the card from Queretaro on August 14th have jumped here full-time; this is the first time in recent memory that any of the lady wrestlers have split from the control of Lora Gonzales, the Fabulous Moolah of Mexico.

* Ovaciones gave a nice write-up to Konnan el Barbaro and his CD ("La Ley de Konnan") and Konnan el Barbaro said he would not lose sight of his main focus right now -- lucha libre.

* Titanes del Ring interviewed el Espanto junior this week; Espanto had little to say.

* Their television aired two hours earlier in Mexico City this week for no specified reason. It aired on Televisa's channel four at 9:00 am local time (= Mountain Daylight Time) on Sunday, August 16, 1992.

* I have no further news about last week's cover story. In that story, I told how the old union, el Sindicato Nacional de Luchadores y Referis Profesionales de Mexico, and its leader Manny Guzman (real name Manuel Solano Vazquez) had called for a strike. This strike was (and still will be) against the new union, el Sindicato AAA, and its leaders, who are in essence Fuerza Guerrera, el Justiciero, and AAA president Antonio H. Pena. This "strike" or labor action does not do anything remotely like last year's crippling strike did. No cards should be canceled. No wrestlers should be out of work. The key provision to me is that any promoter or arena who rents in the future (after August 19th, 1992) to the AAA, or more correctly uses its union's wrestlers, will not be allowed (presumably forevermore) to run a card and employ SNL wrestlers on that show. In the Mexico City area, only two arenas are currently booking AAA wrestlers. They are la Arena Xochimilco in Xochimilco, Distrito Federal, Mexico, and la Arena Apatlaco in Izatapalapa, Mexico, Mexico. These are two tiny arenas who run one card per week, always on Saturday nights. My guess is that both will decide not to use AAA wrestlers for the near term and see if the SNL sends big-name draws to their arenas. I expect this strike call is more preventative in nature, warning big arenas near Mexico City not to switch to the AAA.

AAA (Continued)

GALAVISION TELEVISION

First, I'd like to go over the AAA television taping that aired this past Sunday night, August 16th, 1992, on the Galavision cable network in the United States of America, and which was taped Friday, August 7th, 1992, at el Gimnasio Manuel Hidalgo in Puebla, Pubela, Mexico. I thought it was a pretty good show. After a special opening for Galavision fans only by new and horrible announcer Enrique Bermudez de la Pena (his full real name), we were off to action. Please, bring back Doctor Alfonso Morales. Soon.

The opener saw el Giro, el Colorado, and captain el Halcon 78 (trust me, he is "78" not the original "Halcon") defeat the rudo squadron of The Babe Sharon, The Rose, and captain el Brazo de Platino. The tecnicos won two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 19:47. The first fall went 9:20 before el Giro and el Colorado managed a double countout out of the ring victory over The Babe Sharon and el Brazo de Platino. The second fall went 5:42 before referees el Tirantes (aka el Suspenders: hey, even nicer suspenders this week, dude) and el Silvestri counted down el Haalcon 78 after a power bomb by el Brazo de Platino. The third fall lasted only 4:45 before they just "went to the finish" and el Brazo de Platino was automatically disqualified for fouling el Halcon 78. I thought The Babe Sharon (who may soon rival Rudy "Perfumado" Reyna as Roy Lucier's mom's favorite wrestler) and The Rose played their effeminate act very well. The Babe Sharon's "old queen" routine with the slaps and all was great. They may not be up to the level of May Flowers and Pimpinela Escariata but few are. I liked the chickens (Giro and Colorado) tonight more than ever; they've improved a lot. I don't like the AAA's stealing Super Porky's "Porky Pig Theme" music for Platino. Oh well. Still, this was a solid match. I gave it ** 3/4.

The segunda saw Mister Condor, el Picudo, and captain Psicosis win two out of three falls from Katana, Kendo Star, and captain el Rey Misterio junior in a total elapsed time of 17:47. The first fall went 7:22 before Kendo Star pinned el Picudo with the small package. The second fall lasted 4:37 before el Picudo and Psicosis teamed up to make Kendo Star submit to a double-team wishbone (ouch). The third fall went 5:48 and ended twice: first all three rudos made el Rey Misterio junior submit clean to a pyramid, but they all kept going for two more minutes until Mister Condor pinned el Rey Misterio junior (again) with the power bomb. Condor and Misterio set up their mask match that was held the next Friday with the mask-ripping and blading. In fact, Mister Condor jabbed a cut open on el Rey Misterio junior's forehead RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE CAMERA -- the most obvious caught-in-the-act I have ever seen -- at the 1:35 mark of the third fall. Notes on this match: Why did the announcers keep calling Misterio a punk?...Kendo Star and Katana were 2/3 of the old trios "Los Nuevos Fantasticos." What has become of the other 1/3, Blackman II?...Psicosis did a great long jump dive into a single axe-handle outside the ring at the end of the second fall...The face referees for this match (Pepe "Tropi" Casas and el Aportos) clearly watched as el Rey Misterio junior was atomic dropped groin-first into the ring post in the third fall. Why no DQ for the super-foul?...The tecnicos threw Psicosis through the first six rows of ringside. Not INTO or OVER but straight THROUGH, knocking chairs flying all around...They faces did big dives, but once again Katana (ex-Leon CHino) failed to impress me, as he barely even executed el Gran Hamada's quebrada...After the match, Raul Sarmiento was at ringside for the post-match challenges..Finally, I thought Psicosis (good) and Misterio (super) were the best workers; I gave it *** 1/4.

The semifinal disappointed me. I thought it was solid but nothing more. The ring entrance, however, may have been the greatest of all time. In this match, el Solar II, el Angel Azteca, and captain Super Muneco defeated the rudo squadron of el Trio del Ultratumba de la AAA (Karis la Momia, el Hijo del Espectro, and captain la Parca) two falls to one in a total elapsed time of 16:47. The first fall went 10:23 before Azteca pinned Karis la Momia with the power bomb. The second fall saw el Hijo del Espectro defeat Super Moon-yuch-oh (in honor of Dave Scherer) in 2:48 with what was intended to be la silla from off of the top rope but ended up being a double team power bomb as el Hijo del Espectro overshot the target. The third fall saw el Angel Azteca pin la Parca in 3:36 with, you guessed it, the power bomb. P. S., when did el Angel Azteca get so old? He is 30 but now has white chest hair! This was wrestled cleanly, even with referees el Tirantes and Pepe Casas, and I gave it ** 1/2. But, what a ring entrance. To the tune of a speeded-up "Thriller," the dead trio was led to the ring in a darkened arena in coffins carried by hooded pallbearers and la Parca leading the way. A ***** introduction, in my book (hope the AAA doesn't become too introduction-heavy a la the WWF). Highly recommended for the entrance.

The main event saw Mexican National Trios Champions (Universo Ano Dos Mil, Mascara Ano Dos Mil, and captain Cien Caras) won two straight falls of a non-title match from el Psicodelico, el Hijo de Tinieblas (without Alushe), and captain Konnan el Barbaro. I was glad they kept this one short -- 9:41. They made their point and went home. The first fall went 3:42 before el Psicodelico was disqualified by heel referee el Tirantes for pounding on babyface referee Pepe Casas. after the face team completely fell apart, Konnan el Barbaro was pinned by all three Dinamita with a triple yakuza kick at 5:59 in the second fall. As they say, brevity is the essence of wit; this wit gives theirs ** 1/2. Konnan looks to be a full-time regular here, as he no-showed the WWF Television Taping on August 10th and 11th; he was "fired," so Paul Diamond played "Relampago" and Louie Spicoli played "Kato."

EMLL RESULTS

* First, a couple of results from July from la Arena Coliseo in Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico. On Sunday, July 26th, 1992, the main event saw Ringo Mendoza, Lizmark I, and The Black Magic defeat Javier "el Monarca" Cruz, el Satanico, and la Bestia Salvaje two falls to one. The semifinal, the only other result I have, saw los Guerreros del Futuro (Damian, el Guerrero, el Guerrero del Futuro, and el Guerrero Maya) defeat la Aguila Solitaria, Kato Kung Lee I, and Kato Kung Lee junior two falls to one.

* Then on Tuesday, August 28th, 1992, as I mentioned last week, the main event saw Apolo Dantes defeat el Hijo del Solitario two falls to one in the main event. In the semifinal, los Intocables del Ring (Pierroth junior, Jaque Mate, and Masakre) won two out of three falls from el Dandy, el Brazo de Oro, and el Brazo de Plata in a non-title match (los Intocables del Ring are the current CMLL World Trios Champions).

* As shown in highlights on this week's EMLL television show, the main event of the show held Tuesday, August 11th, 1992, saw Apolo Dantes, Lizmark I, and el Rayo de Jalisco junior win two out of three falls (sort of) from M. S. 1, el Satanico, and Jose "el Negro" Casas. The finish of the third fall saw Kung Fu come out from the back and run in and attack Apolo Dantes to begin their new blood feud. This caused Casas's team to be disqualified, and these rudos were so upset, even they too started attacking Kung Fu!

* Now on to la Arena Coliseo's television taping held Friday, August 14th, 1992, at la Arena Mexico. The opener, which was off of television, saw el Solar II, el Guerrero Samurai II, and el Metalico facing el Bello Incognito, el Escudero Rojo, and el Cortado. Onto what aired on television, where the segunda of the card was the television opener. There, el Trio Metalico (Oro, Plata, and Bronce) defeated los Guerreros del Futuro (el Guerrero Maya, el Guerrero del Futuro, and Damian, el Guerrero) two falls to one. The faces (Metals) did nice dives in the third fall. Rated at ** 3/4. The tercera at the arena, and the second television match, saw Cesar Dantes, el Hijo del Solitario, and el Hijo del Gladiador win two out of three falls from el Brazo de Plata (a. k. a. Porky), Aaron Grondy, and The Black Magic (Norman Smiley). The story of the match was the continuing difficulty between el Brazo de Plata and Aaron Grondy. Their mis-communication cost them the third fall and the match. It was an all-out brawl, but at the end, Grondy turned on Porky, splashed him, and Porky was stretchered. Porky did his crying spot and Grondy just laughed at him. Watch for Grondy to become Makhan Singh. Rated as a DUD. The semifinal found Apolo Dantes, el Dandy, and Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragon win two out of three falls from el Satanico, la Bestia Salvaje, and Jose "el Negro" Casas. Dragon pinned Casas (Casas was not the captain of his team) in the third fall with the german suplex hold. Then Casas re-entered the fray to pound on the faces. This caused the automatic (rules) DQ for Casas and his team. This was rated as a good, solid match, at *** 1/4. The main event saw Atlantis defending for the 36th time his NWA World Middleweight Championship, this time versus Roy Lucier's favorite all-time wrestler, Emilio (those eyes) Charles junior. Charles won the first fall via pinfall with the hurracarrana. The second fall went to Atlantis via submission with the swastika (like an abdominal stretch) submission hold. The third fall went almost 15:00, with some near falls, but mostly with excruciatingly long arm bars by Charles. Charles tried variations, but after one attempt, Atlantis rolled Charles up for the three-count and the victory. This was rated at ***, but with a slow third fall.

CARDS

* The EMLL held a card on Thursday, August 13th, 1992, at Cuautla, Mexico, Mexico. The main event saw el Gran Markus junior and Jose "el Negro" Casas team up to face The Love Machine and Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense. The semifinal saw la Sirenita return to the arena where she had won the Mexican National Ladies' Title (from la Sirenita on July 2nd, 1992) and defend that title versus la Diabolica del Caribe. The tercera saw Master and el Guerrero de la Muerte face el Filoso and el Talisman junior. Two local luchas opened the show.

* Mexico City's intimate la Pista Arena Revolucion hosted its traditional Saturday night and Sunday afternoon shows this week, as per usual. The Saturday show, August 15th, 1992, saw in the semifinal, America (who just turned heel in the past two weeks and it got over so well that he cancelled his Japan tour to "strike while the iron was hot") face Atlantis in a mano a mano match. And in the main event, el Felino defended his CMLL World Welterweight Title versus la Aguila Solitaria. (Originally, el Felino was to face Cicion Ramirez, but it was changed at the last moment.

* The Sunday afternoon show of August 16th, 1992, at "la Pista" saw the finals of the tournament to crown the new Mexican National Welterweight Championship (el Felino vacated the title after he won the CMLL World belt). The finalists were el Fantasma de la Quebrada and Cicion Ramirez. In the semifinal, a caballera contra caballera match was held between Comodin and el Reyes Veloz I. I may have results in the late news section.

* Sunday, August 16th, 1992, at la Arena Coliseo, in Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico, saw a huge caballera contra caballera main event between Ringo Mendoza and la Bestia Salvaje. (That feud came out of nowhere!)

* Finally, the Sunday, August 16th, 1992 card at la Arena Naucalpan in Naucalpan, Mexico, Mexico, was main-evented

EMLL (Continued)

CARDS (Continued)

by the tecnico trio of Apolo Dantes, Kato Kung Lee I, and Triton, as they took on the rudo squadron of el Felino, Javier "el Monarca" Cruz, and el Hijo del Solitario.

* Also on Sunday, August 16th, 1992, lucha libre was held for the first time ever at "la Plaza de Toros 'Concanaco'" en el Centro de Texcoco in Texcoco, Mexico, Mexico. The main event for this debut card saw Atlantis, Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragon, and Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense face los Nuevos Infernales (M. S. 1, el Satanico, and el Pirata Morgan). The semifinal saw the lady wrestlers in action as the Japanese ruda team of Kaoru Maeda, Yumiko Hotta, and Suzuka Minami met Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales, Xochitl Hamda, and la Sirenita. The super-mini-estrelas took center stage in the segunda. Los Pequeños Intocables del Ring (el Pequeno Pierroth, el Pequeno Jaque Mate, and Masakretito) met Tritoncito, la Mascarita Magica, and el Ultimo Dragoncito. In the inicial, el Pegaso and el Gran Apache I met el Mestizo and Mario Prado junior.

NEWS

* The official first meeting of the fan club for Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense was postponed indefinitely, apparently due to personal problems among the organizers.

* A new midget is set to debut: Gargolita el Sultan. He and Orito got a nice write-up in the August 13th, 1992, issue of Ovaciones (Orito was even the picture-index subject; for the 14th that honor went to el Satanico).

* Their television aired per normal this week, at 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm local time (= Mountain Daylight Time) on Saturday, August 15th, 1992. They have also debuted a 45-50 minute Wednesday night television show on satellite Morelos 1, channel M13, taped from Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico. It's called "el Nuevo Lucha Libre." This past Wednesday night (August 12th, 1992), the show showed the debut of the EMLL super-mini-estrelas, but the odd thing was that they used another el Piratita Morgan! This one had hair (the old Piratita had lost a hair match July 31st, 1992), and was skinny, not fat like the old Piratita. The show airs from 9:45 pm to 10:30 pm PDT each Wednesday.

* Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales, a pride of Ciudad Juarez, was interviewed in this week's Titanes de Ring

* Custodia magazine, in its weekly centerfold lucha libre column, reported in its issue of August 25th, 1992, that wrestlers are paid more money to lose their hair. The magazine called this "selling their dignity." The magazine said that while the going rate was 500 to 1,000 pesos in the old days, that for losing his hair to Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense on July 17th, 1992, that el Pirata Morgan was paid 25,000,000 pesos. That translates at current exchange rates to \$3,000.00 in American dollars.

* And kudos to this week's issue of Super Luchas, the Apolo Dantes issue. I can't overemphasize Dantes's win -- it is the biggest in-ring event of 1992. The same issue also featured pieces on los Intocables del Ring, la Alas de Plata, and AAA midgets la Parquita and el Picudito.

* Also, these more complete results were printed. On the card of Tuesday, July 28th, 1992, at la Arena Coliseo in Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico, (the main event featured on the previous page), the semifinal saw The Big Bang (ex-Jack Victory), el Gran Markus junior, and el Supremo I won two straight falls from el Dandy, Aaron Grondy, and la Mascara Magica. The tercera saw el Hijo del Solitario, el Felino, and Javier "el Monarca" Cruz win two out of three falls from a very bloody Apolo Dantes, Ciclón Ramirez, and el Cachorro Mendoza. The segunda saw el Archangel de la Muerte, el Guerrero de la Muerte, and Ultimatum win two out of three falls from Eclipse, el Metalico, and la Aguila Solitaria. And in the inicial, el Filoso and el Gran Apache I defeated el Escudero Rojo and el Halcon Negro junior 2-1.

* The results from la Arena Coliseo in Mexico City on Sunday, August 2nd, 1992, saw a main event where Ringo Mendoza, la Mascara Magica, and Lizmark I defeat el Satanico, The Big Bang, and la Bestia Salvaje two falls to one when Lizmark pinned el Satanico with a clean pinfall with the quebradora in the third fall. The semifinal saw Rudos Cesar Dantes, Gargola el Sultan, and Ulises Plus win two out of three falls from Kato Kung Lee I, (Doctor) Rokambole, and el Trueno. The tercera saw Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales, Xochitl Hamada, and la Sirenita take two of three from Yumiko Hotta, Suzuka Minami, and la Diabolica del Caribe. Mario Prado junior and el Escudero Rojo defeated el Pegaso and el Guerrero Samurai II two falls to one in the segunda. And, in the inicial, el Misterio Tapatio and Olympus took two out of three falls from Master and el Reyes Veloz I.

* Roy Lucier also reports from the card held Wednesday, August 7th, 1992, at la Arena Coliseo de Guadalajara in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, where the initial matches two out of the five matches were re-broadcast over satellite later that same night. The opener saw el Ultimo Dragoncito and la Aguila Solitaria defeat el Piratita Morgan (the new one) and el Espectrito (junior) two falls to one. The other match that aired saw el Atomo, el Pegaso, and Joe Mercado junior win two out of three falls from el Asesino Negro, el Gran Markus junior, and a third wrestler whose name Roy didn't get. Thanks Roy for all your help, and sorry I had to edit for length some of your best stuff!

UWA RESULTS

* The main event of the card held Friday, July 31st, 1992, at la Arena Netzahualcoyotl in Netzahualcoyotl, Mexico, Mexico, saw Canek, The Doctor Wagner junior, and el Loco Zandokan win two out of three falls from el Bufalo Allen, el Gigante Samoano Kokina, and el Signo.

* Shu, el Guerrero has had a big August so far. Last week I reported that on August 7th, 1992, at la Arena Netzahualcoyotl, he defeated el Villano III to win the UWA World Junior Heavyweight Championship. This week I found out that three days prior to that -- Tuesday, August 4th, 1992 -- Shu, el Guerrero also won a big stipulation match. At la Arena La Aficion in Pachuca, Hidalgo, Mexico, Shu, el Guerrero defeated Korak in a mascara contra mascara match. I have no word on whom Korak turned out to be.

CARDS

* The traditional Thursday night card held this past August 13th, 1992, at la Pista Arena Revolucion in Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico, saw The Doctor Wagner junior challenge el Villano V for the latter's UWA World Light Heavyweight Championship. I believe (but don't yet know for sure) that el Villano V kept his belt, based upon the way things were mentioned in Friday's newspapers. The semifinal saw Enrique Vera, el Villano III, and el Tigre Canadiense face Miguelito Perez junior, el Loco Zandokan, and The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow). The segunda saw Sato, el Celestial, and Aero Flash face la Ola Lila (Pimpinela Escarlata, May Flowers, and Rudy "Perfumado" Reyna). The inicial saw el Matematico I, el Ojo de Tigre, and el Rayo de Plata face Zeus, el Pesadillo, and el Mohicano I.

* The also-traditional Thursday night card held August 13th, 1992, at la Arena Toluca in Toluca, Mexico, Mexico, had a main event featuring los Cowboys (Silver King and el Texano) teaming with el Villano I to face the UWA World Trios Champions, los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte (el Signo, The Black Power II, and Miguel "el Negro" Navarro) in a non-title match. The semifinal saw Lasser and el Gran Apache I face los Espantos IV and V. The segunda found Casandro and el Viento Negro face Frayle Top and el Dragon CHino I. The inicial saw el Diamante face el Soberbio.

* The Friday night card at la Arena Netzahualcoyotl held August 14th, 1992, was headlined by el Villano III, el Texano, and Silver King versus el Loco Zandokan, Miguelito Perez junior, and The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow).

* The traditional Saturday night card at la Arena Isabel in Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico, held August 15th, 1992, was headlined by Silver King, el Texano, and Enrique Vera versus Miguelito Perez junior, el Loco Zandokan, and The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow).

* The main event held Sunday, August 16th, 1992, at la Arena Toluca saw The Black Birds I and II face los Hermanos Muerte I y II.

* Finally, the Sunday, August 16th, 1992, card held at the "el Toreo de Cuatro Caminos" bull ring in suburban Naucalpan, Mexico, Mexico, saw a rarity. Two EMLL main-eventers were brought in for the main event, because so many UWA stars were in Japan for the Universal tour. The main event saw Pierroth junior, The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow), and Miguelito Perez junior versus Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense, Dos Caras, and el Villano III. The semifinal saw el Texano, Silver King, and el Villano III face The Doctor Wagner junior, el Loco Zandokan, and el Gigante Samoano Kokina. The tercera saw another non-title match for los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte (el Signo, The Black Power II, and Miguel "el Negro" Navarro) as they faced el Villano I, el Villano IV, and el Tigre Canadiense. The segunda saw la Ola Lila (Rudy "Perfumado" Reyna, May Flowers, and Pimpinela Escarlata) face Lasser, The King, and Sato. And, the inicial saw los Dragones CHinos I y II team with Aero Flash to face Casandro and los Espantos IV y V. I hope to have results in the late news section on page eight.

NEWS

* The UWA returned to television this past Saturday, August 15th, 1992. They aired, however, a "greatest hits show" with Canek, el Villano III, and Dos Caras meeting Bam Bam Bigelow and los Samoanos in the main while underneath el Hijo de Santo, el Hijo de Tinieblas, and Tinieblas I (with Alushe) faced Jose "el Negro" Casas, Fishman, and The Killer (managed by Andy Barrow). The opener saw los Matematicos II y IV against ? (not sure whom). Tala Menendez did the only current segment, showing the grand opening of the new lucha-libre-themed restaurant "el Cuadrilatero."

* Speaking of that Mexico City restaurant, it opened around July 27th. It has cameos of Super Astro and The Babe Face I on the marquee. The Babe Face I was there for the grand opening, as were Dorrell Dixon, Silver King, el Texano, Tala Menendez, The Head Hunters A and B, The Black Power II, and el Scorpio junior.

* Titanes del Ring this week interviewed Enrique Vera senior and junior, Carlos Elio "el Coloso" Colosetti, and veteran wrestler el Atomo (who debuted at la Arena San Juan Pantitlan in 1950). Mil Mascaras was also interviewed; he will be the "Metroposter" in the 8/13 issue. He says he will direct his third movie, "The Colonel," in Japan this fall.

MINI-BIOGRAPHY: EMILIO CHARLES JUNIOR

Sergio Emilio CHARles Galundio junior was born on October 12th, 1956, in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. He is the son of ex-luchador Emilio CHARles. The senior CHARles had some success at lucha libre, once holding the Mexican National Lightweight Championship. After the son expressed a desire to join his father's sport, the father enrolled the son as a boarding student at the legendary Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, gymnasium of Cuahatemoc "el Diablo" Velasco. In the late 1970's, the younger CHARles was trained by both Velasco and another Guadalaran legendary trainers, Elajueo Khalijo. By the turn of the decade, CHARles was ready to debut, and did so at la Arena Coliseo de Guadalajara in February, 1980. CHARles's fame grew immediately, and barely two years after his debut, he defeated Huichol (who now wrestles as "el Loco Zandokan") for the State of Mexico Heavyweight Championship. Yes, in his youth, Charles was a heavyweight! He has since dropped several pounds to where he is now right on the border of middleweight and a light heavyweight. He is currently said to weigh 87 kg (191.8 lbs) and is said to be 176 cm (5'9.3") tall. CHARles, who has almost totally wrestled for the EMLL since his debut, defended his belt briefly before dropping it, then was mainly put in parejas or trios. In the 1985-1987 period, he teamed regularly with Tony Arce and Rocco Valente have also been in the same position that CHARles was in that trio. CHARles left the trio to concentrate on singles matches in 1987, and had his (to date) crowning achievement in 1988. On July 17th, 1988, at la Pista Arena Revolucion in Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico, CHARles defeated Atlantis to become the NWA World Middleweight Champion. He held that title for eleven months before his first title defense, and then lost it back to Atlantis on August 12th, 1989, at la Arena Mexico in Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico. One month later, in September of 1989, CHARles defeated el Dandy to win the National Middleweight Championship. CHARles held that belt also only briefly, before losing it to el Angel Azteca. CHARles would have one more reign as Mexican National Middleweight Champion. In late August of 1990, CHARles defeated the then-tecnico Javier "el Monarca" Cruz in la Arena Coliseo de Acapulco in Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico to begin his second title reign. That ended on November 20th, 1992, back at la Pista Arena Revolucion, where Octagon (who has not since lost this title) defeated CHARles cleanly with a small package to win the National Middleweight title. CHARles's fame in Japan has grown a lot lately, too, as he was chosen (at the last minute) to be the very first opponent for Yoshihiro Asai's Japanese/SWS debut as Saigon Dragon, el Ultimo Dragon, on November 8, 1991. Charles has now been to Japan three times in the last year and has gotten over well (as much as a rudo can there). With his Night Stalker-like (Richard Ramirez) bulging eyes (right, Roy?) and his freakish mop of hair, CHARles has always had the rudo look to go along with the natural charisma and fine work rate. Anyone who claims that CHARles and Dave Meltzer are really twins, well, I doubt it, Dave has less body fat (I think). Really, CHARles is a super worker, one of the very best rudos and workers in Mexico, and even at nearly 36, seems likely to be in the thick of things right until the turn of the century.

AUGUST RATINGS:

(Covers the time period of July 1, 1992 to August 16, 1992, and is based on work rate and push)

HEAVIER WEIGHTS (Heavyweight, Light Heavyweight, Junior Heavyweight, and Junior Light Heavyweight):

- 1) Canek;
- 2) Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo;
- 3) Konnan el Barbaro;
- 4) Casanova, el Vampiro Canadiense;
- 5) Mil Mascaras;
- 6) Apolo Dantes;
- 7) el Satanico;
- 8) el Pirata Morgan;
- 9) Cien Caras;
- 10) Silver King;
- 11) M. S. 1;
- 12) el Brazo de Plata;
- 13) Lizmark I;
- 14) el Brazo de Oro;
- 15) Pierroth junior;
- 16) Shu, el Guerrero;
- 17) Jerry "el Puma" Estrada;
- 18) el Volador;
- 19) el Angel Azteca;
- 20) el Rayo de Jalisco junior.

LIGHTER WEIGHTS (Middleweight, Welterweight, Lightweight, Featherweight, and Flyweight):

- 1) el Dandy;
- 2) Jose "el Negro" Casas;
- 3) Octagon;
- 4) Atlantis;
- 5) el Felino;
- 6) Heavy Metal;
- 7) el Misterioso;
- 8) el Hijo del Santo;
- 9) Ciclón Ramirez;
- 10) Fuerza Guerrera;
- 11) la Bestia Salvaje;
- 12) Psicosis;
- 13) Emilio CHARles junior;
- 14) Lasser;
- 15) The Blue Panther;
- 16) Oro;
- 17) Pimpinela Escarlata;
- 18) el Rey Misterio junior;
- 19) el Archangel de la Muerte;
- 20) el Celestial.

PAREJAS:

- 1) The Can-am Express I y II;
- 2) los Cowboys/Efectivos (Silver King and el Texano);
- 3) el Volador and el Misterioso;
- 4) Tony Arce and el Vulcano;
- 5) Konnan el Barbaro and Pedro "el Perro" Aguayo.

TRIOS:

- 1) Los Intocables del Ring;
- 2) Los Nuevos Infernales;
- 3) Los Hermanos Dinamita;
- 4) los Nuevos Misioneros de la Muerte;
- 5) los Nuevos Destruyores del Ring;
- 6) el Trio Metalico;
- 7) los Guerreros del Futuro;
- 8) los Mosqueteros del Diablo, los Brazos;
- 9) la Ola Lila;
- 10) el Trio del Ultratumba.

LUCHADORAS:

- 1) Lola "Dinamita" Gonzales;
- 2) Lady Apache;
- 3) Martha "la Aplandora" Villalobos;
- 4) la Sirenita;
- 5) Xochitl Hamada

LATE NEWS

I had hoped to have results from the AAA Acapulco television taping, but very little filtered through to the usual sources. I do know that the trio of Heavy Metal, Psicosis, and el Picudo lost their match, with Casas and Picudo looking about ready to turn on rudissimo rudo Psicosis. The mask match went to the third fall, with heavy outside interference from The Blue Panther as Mister Condor's second, before the picture faded. I do know that the AAA announced that effective August 21st, they would eliminate the middle rope for all future matches. That should be strange to see. Oh, and thanks to the very kind Mike Tenay, I also know that the main event for local television purposes showed the Konnan's team versus Cien Caras's team match. All during last weekend's television show, the announcers kept saying how Cien Caras and his brothers have "honor among their band," which makes being a true-blue rudo be as much of an honorable persuasion as its opposite. The announcers all said how the rudos like Caras did not like nor appreciate traitors. Well, in this weekend's main event (you have probably seen it by now), Sicodelico just did not get along with his new rudo teammates. The match ended in the third fall with a run-in by rudo el Indomirto, who handcuffed Konnan el Barbaro to the bottom rope, causing the rudo squad to be disqualified (well, it might have been some sort of strange double disqualification). For those of you who read this before you watch the AAA show that will air (or did air) on August 23rd, 1992, I sure have left a bunch of open endings, haven't I? Sadly, the late Mexico news with the results from Sunday's (8/16) big cards never came in to my local stores, so I will close with Dave Meltzer's summary of the card he saw on Saturday night, August 15th, 1992, at The Korakuen Hall in Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan, for the Universal group. Dave said they drew 1500-1550 in a 2,150-seat building, which isn't so hot except that it was one of the last Tokyo shows to run during the biggest week of shows in Tokyo history. The first match amongst the Mexicans saw Rocky Santana and Shu, el Guerrero defeat Kendo (aka Transformer) and Cooley Crush Shoji one fall to none in 16:45 when Shu pinned Kendo with the double-arm DDT. The second match saw The Great Sasuke (el Ninja Sasuke in Mexico), Black Magic (not Norman Smiley but a young Japanese trainee), and el Panterita del Ring defeat el Scorpio junior, The Super Dolphin (ex-Monkey Magic Wakita), and el Bucanero junior two falls to one when Sasuke pinned Bucanero with the old Bob Backlund/Tim Horner rolling reverse cradle with a bridge. Dave gave the first match * 1/2 and the second *** 1/2 (all grades and match reports copyright 1992 The Wrestling Observer Newsletter). The main event saw el Villano IV (a last minute substitution for el Pantera II/America, who was pulled by Paco Alonso because his heel turn in Mexico finally got him over and they didn't want to lose the momentum he'd built up), Bulldog Punish Keiti, and Pat Tanaka defeated Haraoki "el Gran" Hamada. The Lightning Kid, and The Dynamic Lynn in two straight falls in 15:35. The first fall went 12:43 before Tanaka pinned Lynn with a stuff piledriver after a regular piledriver. Lynn and Kid were stretchered out, leaving Hamada to start the second fall one-versus-three. Hamada lasted 2:52 before being pinned by Punish. Dave gave this *** 1/2 also (c). The best move of the night Dave said belonged to The Great Sasuke, who did a backwards moonsault press from off of the top rope (wait til Dave sees what el Rey Misterio did on the 8/7 AAA show -- heh heh heh). Dave had fun and I plan on having (not hope to have but plan to have) a big report from him here next week. Welcome back to the Mexico City 4 -- sorry if my directions weren't perfect, but hope you had a good time anyway. Bye til next week.

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